



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/587,318	04/30/2007	Shinichiro Maruyama	A4-206 US	4822

7590 09/08/2008
Charles S. Cohen
MOLEX INCORPORATED
2222 Wellington Court
Lisle, IL 60532

EXAMINER

GILMAN, ALEXANDER

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2833

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
-----------	---------------

09/08/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/587,318	Applicant(s) MARUYAMA, SHINICHIRO	
	Examiner Alexander D. Gilman	Art Unit 2833	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 June 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 and 18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 16 and 17 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>6/18/08</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Art Unit: 2833

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims, 1-4, 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nishioka

With regard to claim 1, Nishioka (US 6,776,640) discloses a memory card connector (34), comprising:

an insulative housing (6) having a terminal-mounting section which mounts a plurality of conductive terminals (8) having contact portions for engaging appropriate contacts on a memory card (3) and which at least in part defines a card-receiving cavity (2) for receiving the memory card;

a card eject mechanism (14) including a slider (14) movably mounted on the housing and engageable with the memory card for movement therewith into and out of the cavity between an inserted connection position and a withdrawal position;

a slide lock member (10) mounted on the connector, independent of the eject mechanism, and engageable with the slider to hold the slider in said inserted connection position; and

an ejection control member (23) mounted on the connector for releasing the slide lock member from engagement with the slider to allow the slider and memory card to be ejected.

With regard to claim 2, Nishioka discloses that said terminal-mounting section of the housing (6) is a rear section and including at least one side wall section (Fig. 6)) of the housing extending forwardly from one end of the rear section, said

Art Unit: 2833

card eject mechanism (14) and said ejection control member (23) being on said side wall section.

With regard to claim 3, Nishioka discloses that said card eject mechanism 25 (46), said slide lock member (10, Fig. 4) and said ejection control member (23) form a push/push mechanism, whereby a first push on the memory card (2) moves the memory card and slider (Fig. 5)) to said inserted connection position, the slide lock member (Fig. 5c) being located to hold the slider at said position, and a second push (an arrow 30) on the ejection control member (23) releases the slide lock member from engagement with the slider to allow a0 the slider and memory card to be ejected.

With regard to claim 4, Nishioka discloses that a metal shell (1) mounted on the housing (6) and combining therewith to define said cavity having a front insertion opening (42) to permit insertion and withdrawal of the memory card into and out of the connector, said slide lock member (52) being on the metal shell.

With regard to claim 8, Nishioka discloses that said slide lock member comprises a spring arm (12) having a lock portion (11) engageable with a lock shoulder (Fig. 5c) on the slider (14) automatically as the slider and memory card are moved to said inserted connection position.

With regard to claim 9, Nishioka discloses that said ejection control member (23) is mounted alongside the card eject mechanism (14) for movement generally parallel to the movement of the slider.

With regard to claim 10, Nishioka discloses that said ejection control member (23) includes a manually engageable portion (26) outside the housing (36).

Art Unit: 2833

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims, 1,4-8, 11-15,18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nogami.

With regard to claims 1, 4-7, 12 Nogami discloses memory card connector (2), comprising: an insulative housing (8) having a rear terminal-mounting section (6) which mounts a plurality of conductive terminals (11) having contact portions (12) for engaging appropriate contacts on a memory card (1), and at least one side wall section (9) extending forwardly from one end of the rear section; a metal shell (5) mounted on the housing and combining therewith to define a card-receiving cavity having a front insertion opening to permit insertion and withdrawal of the memory card; a card eject mechanism (3) including a slider movably mounted on the side wall section of the housing and engageable with the memory card for movement therewith into and out of the cavity between an inserted connection position and a withdrawal position; a slide lock member (67) and engageable with the slider to hold the slider in said inserted connection position; and an ejection control member (70) mounted along the side wall section of the

Art Unit: 2833

housing for releasing the slide lock member from engagement with the slider to allow the slider and memory card to be ejected;

whereby the connector becomes a push/push type connector, with a first push of the memory card and the slider moves the memory card to said inserted connection position and a second push (on 72) of the ejection control member moves the slide lock member (67) out of engagement with the slider.

With regard to claims 13, Nogami discloses said shell (5) is stamped and formed from sheet metal material and the slide lock member (67) is stamped and formed therefrom.

With regard to claims 8, 14, Nogami discloses that said slide lock member comprises a cantilevered spring arm (67).

With regard to claims 15, Nogami discloses said cantilevered spring arm (67) has a lock portion (68) engageable with a lock shoulder on the slider automatically as the slider and memory card are moved to said inserted connection position.

With regard to claims 11, 18, Nogami discloses biasing means (a spring on 71) for biasing the ejection control member (70) to a retracted inoperative position.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 16,17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Art Unit: 2833

No prior art has been found to anticipate or render obvious the presently claimed subject matter. Specifically, none of the prior art of record discloses the combination of the limitations presented including the ejection control member being mounted alongside the card eject mechanism for movement generally parallel to the movement of the slider in the process of engagement with the slide lock member being formed integral with the metal shell (claim 16). Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alexander D. Gilman whose telephone number is 571 272-2004. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 10:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Renee S. Luebke can be reached on 571 272-2800 ext. 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Alexander D Gilman/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2833

9/04/08